

# WESTERN GREEN DRAKE

## *DRUNELLA GRANDIS*



### Green Drake Nymph

#### Identification

- Dark brown bodies with a distinctive light line running from the head to abdomen tip
- Body contains many spines on head, thorax, and abdomen
- Front legs with a bicep-like bump
- Three tails, but they are easily broken
- Plate-like gills on abdomen (not feather-like)
- Sometimes curls tail over head in defensive posture
- Size: up to 0.6 in



### Green Drake Adult

#### Identification

- Body is green soon after hatching but quickly turns dark brown
- Abdomen is short and stocky with three tails
- Hind wing 1/4-1/3 length of front and with distinctive bump on leading side
- Wings clear or grey, never blotched
- Size: 0.5-0.8 in (#12-10)

#### Biology

Western Green Drakes are abundant in many western streams. Look for them to hatch near riffles with medium to large cobbles in June-July. The nymphs become very active prior to the hatch, and they sometimes even emerge underwater.



#### Angling Tip:

Emergence occurs throughout the day, but is strongest in the late afternoon to evening and lasts hours. Duns quickly lose their bright green color when exposed to air. Imitations of duns should thus be green, not the dull brown of older adults.